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United Nations  
Environment  
Programme

# CARIBBEAN CURRENTS

Volume 4, Number 2

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## *Welcome..*

...to **CARIBBEAN CURRENTS**, Volume Four, Number Two. This quarterly newsletter is assembled by INFOTERRA/USA in its capacity as the Regional Service Centre (RSC) for INFOTERRA National Focal Points (NFPs) in the English and French-speaking Caribbean.

Although the Currents is assembled at INFOTERRA/USA, the content belongs to you, the readers. You are encouraged to send in any questions, comments, problems, or interesting issues relevant to the Region for inclusion in the Currents. Please see the Guidelines for Contributions on page 4 for more information.

Each issue will also feature a Directory of NFPs in the Region so that anyone with international environmental questions can contact their nearest resource. Please feel free to contact one another as well as your RSC for assistance or materials.

Also, please feel free to share **CARIBBEAN CURRENTS** with your friends and colleagues. The Currents should serve as an informational forum for anyone who lives, works, or is involved in environmental issues in the English and French-speaking Caribbean Region.

## MANGROVES

Last issue, **CARIBBEAN CURRENTS** looked at publications which provide information on the Summit of the Americas. Our next issue will address mangroves and their management. Mangroves, which are found on almost every coastline of the Wider Caribbean, serve as a wildlife habitat and as a breeding ground for many kinds of fish and shellfish; stabilize and protect the shoreline; and control water quality. Careful planning and management are essential for the conservation of this valuable resource.

Share any information you have with the RSC and we will include it in a future issue of the **CURRENTS**. If you have any comments on this topic, or would like to contribute a short article or have a resources guide to share, please submit your contribution following the guidelines on page 4. Any information you can provide is useful. Please feel free to fax, write to, or call the RSC with any questions or comments you may have. Thank you for your assistance.

**Following is a select bibliography of material in the INFOTERRA/USA library on women and the environment. Publisher contacts are listed below:**

**Steady, Filomina Chioma, ed. *Women and Children First: Environment, Poverty, and Sustainable Development*. Rochester, Vermont: Schenkman Books, 1993.**

This title is an anthology of papers presented at the symposium, *Women and Children First: The Impact of Poverty and Environmental Degradation on Women and Children*, held in Geneva in May, 1991. These essays were among the earliest substantive contributions to the policy considerations of governments in preparation for the Earth Summit and served to ensure the incorporation of the needs, concerns and aspirations of women and children in *Agenda 21, the Programme of Action from Rio*. They brought to the fore the often unrecognized contributions of women and children to environmental sustainability and emphasized their roles as natural resource managers and conservationists as well as guardians of our common future. Chapter 3 outlines the links between environmental degradation and increasing poverty, with particular emphasis on women and children of the Caribbean island nations. A bibliography of references appears at the end of this chapter.

**Rodda, Annabel. *Women and the Environment*. Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey: Zed Books, 1991.**

The increasing deterioration of the earth's environment is having an impact on all its inhabitants. For women worldwide, however, it has a particular significance. This book explains all the major environmental issues. It focuses on women's roles as users, producers and managers of the earth's resources, and shows how environmental degradation affects women's health and basic needs. But it also reveals how women can be a major force for environmental change, particularly through their important roles as educators and communicators. The book includes a glossary of environmental terms; a guide to education and action; a bibliography and resource guide; and a list of relevant organizations.

**Braidott, Rosi, et al. *Women, the Environment and Sustainable Development: Towards a Theoretical Synthesis*. Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey: Zed Books, 1994.**

This study is a product of the Gender, Environment and Sustainable Development Programme, established in 1990 by the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW). It presents various perspectives, views and positions held by the major actors in the field of women, the environment and sustainable development, and also provides insights for both reflection and action. The framework which emerges emphasizes not only mutualism, sustainability, holism, justice, equity, autonomy, self-reliance and peace, but also states that the different ways in which individuals approach the topic depends on their own situation. It is a framework that owes much to feminist thought and calls for very specific research methodologies and policy actions.

**Latin America-Caribbean Regional Assembly On Women and the Environment. [Washington, D.C.]: WorldWIDE Network, 1991.**

This report is based on the approved document of the plenary session of this regional assembly. The Latin America and Caribbean Regional Assembly on Women and the Environment was convened in Quito, Ecuador from March 19-22, 1991. Initiated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Assembly was the fourth of its kind. These assemblies lead to the Global Assembly of Women and the Environment - Partners in Life, held in Miami, Florida, in Nov. 1991. Attending the Assembly were about 80 representatives from non-governmental environmental organizations in the Latin America and Caribbean Region as well as state representatives from almost every country in the region.

**Global Assembly of Women and the Environment: "Partners in Life", 4-8 November 1991, Miami, Florida, U.S.A. Washington, D.C.: WorldWIDE Network, 1991.**

This assembly was the culmination of four previous regional assemblies, whose purpose was to engage women in an assessment of the environmental conditions in their respective regions, advance the development of a

women's environmental network for future collaboration and cooperation in each region, and to review regional blueprints for environmental action devised by the ministries in the regions. The Global Assembly's goal was to demonstrate women's capacities in environmental management as they relate to global ecological issues, which include water, waste, energy, and environmentally friendly systems, products and technologies. The 218 success stories selected from all regions of the world demonstrate that environmental degradation has been averted or repaired. They illustrate the capacity of women's leadership and potential in environmental management at all levels of society.

**International Conference Women and Environment Conference Proceedings.** Alexandria, Egypt: Alexandria University: 1992.

The conference, held in Egypt, Dec 1-3, 1992, was sponsored by Alexandria University. The proceedings focus on the traditional role played by women as environmental conservationists, and educators of a new generation. The conference was a chance for men and women to express their views about women's response to environmental crisis. Section D - Health Impact of the WorkPlace on Women and Their Children, includes a report entitled, "Women in the Working Environment in the Caribbean: The Manufacturing Business".

### **Publisher Contacts**

Schenkman Books  
118 Main Street  
P.O. Box 119  
Rochester, Vermont 05767  
tel: (802) 767-3702

WorldWIDE Network  
1331 H Street, N.W., Suite 903  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
tel: (202) 347-1514  
fax: (202) 347-1524

Zed Books  
165 First Avenue  
Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey 07716

### **INTERNET Access to The United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women:**

Gopher.epa.gov  
Other Environmental Information  
Other Environmental Gophers  
EcoGopher  
Environmental Groups and Programs  
National and International Groups  
United Nations  
United Nations Conferences  
Fourth World Conference on Women

### ***DID YOU KNOW THAT...***

**Women play an important part in these Caribbean environmental offices?**

**Barbados:** Dept. of Housing and the Environment - Mrs. Vernese Iniss, Admin. Officer

**Bermuda:** Dept. of Planning - Mrs. Aideen Rattery, Administrative Assistant

**Dominican Republic:** Agricultural Engineering - Onaci Valera

**Puerto Rico:** Secretariat of Natural Resources Dept. - Ms. Miriam Albino, Technical Ass't  
Mrs. Carmen Iris Cruz de Vargas, Admin. Ass't

**St. Croix:** Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Management - Mrs. Nora Santana, Permit Coordinator  
Antilitter and Beautification Committee - Mrs. Ditty Lyon

**St. Lucia:** Agricultural Planning Office - Mrs. Rufina Paul, Chief

**St. Thomas:** Eastern Caribbean Centre (part of the public university) - Dr. Laverne Rackster  
Fish and Wildlife - Dr. Barbara Kogis

**[This is not an exhaustive list of names. Please let us know if you would like to add yours.]**

*information supplied by Ms. Gloria Fernández, Caribbean Environmental Information Center, Puerto Rico)*

### **Guidelines for Contributions to *CARIBBEAN CURRENTS***

Any organization or individual operating or involved in the English and French-speaking Caribbean Region is welcome to contribute to the content of the newsletter. Contributions should be addressed to:

Caribbean Currents Coordinator  
INFOTERRA/USA  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Headquarters Library, 3404  
401 M Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460  
UNITED STATES  
Telephone: (202) 260-5917  
Fax: (202) 260-3923  
Internet: library-infoterra@epamail.epa.gov

Please note that submissions should meet the following criteria:

- They should be relevant to environmental issues
- They must be of interest to or directly involve the Region
- They must not endorse or recommend any product or commercial service either explicitly or implicitly
- They must be brief--preferably under 250 words; Bulletin Board requests should be kept under 100 words
- They must be received by the posted deadline (see below)

Please feel free to contact the *CARIBBEAN CURRENTS* coordinator if you are interested in submitting a longer article. You should contact the coordinator to discuss your topic and any size or content restrictions beforehand. Be aware that once your article is submitted, it is subject to editing as needed. Final decisions on editing and inclusion of any contributions are left to the INFOTERRA/USA Manager. Please contact INFOTERRA/USA using the address above to contribute any comments, questions, problems, or ideas.

**DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO Vol. 4, No. 3: May 12, 1995**

# Welcome to The *CARIBBEAN CURRENTS*

## Bulletin Board

*Each issue, we will publish questions or concerns of interest to CURRENTS readers. Anyone who has materials or information that they feel will be helpful should feel free to respond. You may either respond directly to the reader who has placed the item, or send the materials to INFOTERRA/USA for forwarding.*

## Bulletin Board



### DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE

INFOTERRA/USA has free copies of the following publications available.

If you would like copies of any of these documents, please let us know.

- **Guide to Environmental Issues**
- **Let's Reduce and Recycle: Curriculum for Solid Waste Awareness**
- **Turning the Tide on Trash: A Learning Guide on Marine Debris**
- **Status Report on the Use of Environmental Labels Worldwide**
- **The Use of Life Cycle Assessment in Environmental Labeling**

To request copies of these documents, just write to INFOTERRA/USA using the contact information on page 6.



### Information Needed on Marine Pollution

INFOTERRA/USA receives many requests for information on marine pollution. Although we have a number of publications on this topic in the United States, we are interested in collecting information on marine pollution in your countries. Any regulatory, educational or citizen guides you can provide would be greatly appreciated. We are interested in national or local regulations regarding marine pollution created from sources such as tourism, industry, or municipal solid waste.

Please contact INFOTERRA/USA using the information on page 6 if you can provide any assistance. Thank you for your participation!

**Send your Bulletins to the RSC for publication in the next issue. See the Guidelines on page 4 for information on submitting items.**

## About the NFP Directory

*This directory reflects changes and additions to the INFOTERRA Directory of National Focal Points distributed by INFOTERRA/PAC, dated January 1994. Please check this information to verify that it is correct and up-to-date. If you have any changes or corrections, please notify the RSC as soon as possible. We will be happy to relay the information to the PAC.*

## NFP DIRECTORY

Mrs. Candia Williams  
Conservation Officer II  
Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Environment  
Queen Elizabeth Highway  
St. John's  
ANTIGUA  
Telephone: (809) 462-4624 FAX: (809) 462-2836

Dr. Donald Cooper  
Department of Environmental Health Services  
P.O. Box N-3729  
Nassau  
THE BAHAMAS  
Telephone: (809) 322-4908 FAX: (809) 322-3607

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Mr. Felix Gregoire  
Forestry and Wildlife Division  
Ministry of Agriculture, Botanical Gardens  
Roseau  
DOMINICA  
Telephone: (809) 448-2401 FAX: (809) 448-7999

Mavis Taylor  
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P.O. Box 10960  
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Marguerite Blemur  
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et du Developpement Rural  
P.O. Box 1441  
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HAITI  
Telephone: 509-22-1867 FAX: 509-22-3599

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Natural Resources Conservation Authority  
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53 1/2 Molynes Road, P.O. Box 305  
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Telephone: (809) 923-5155/5125 FAX: (809) 923-5070

Edsel Daniel, Planning Enforcement Officer  
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Church Street  
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ST. KITTS AND NEVIS  
Telephone: (809) 465-2521

Vanesta Moses-Felix  
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Ministry of Planning, Personnel,  
Establishment, and Training  
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